Jere Cooper

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
TENNESSEE

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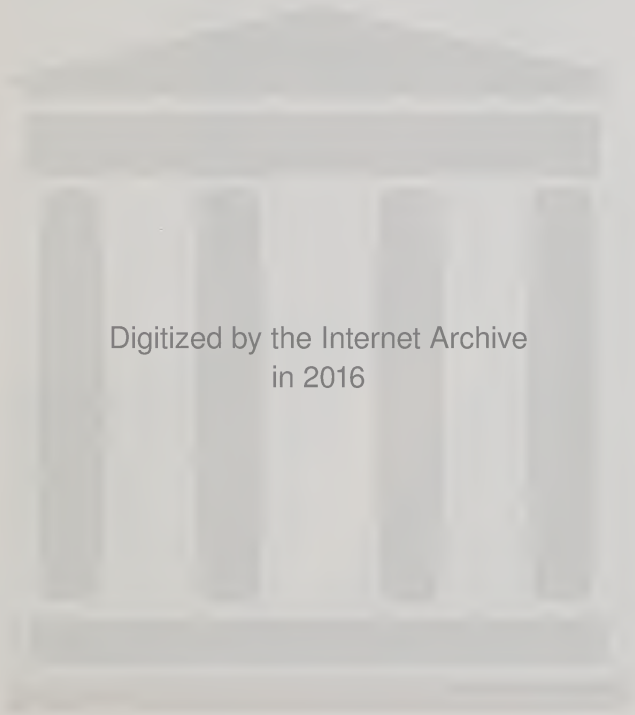

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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER WITH REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

Jere Cooper

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM TENNESSEE

U.S.

Eighty-fifth Congress
Second Session

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Biography

JERE COOPER was born on a farm near Dyersburg, Dyer County, Tenn., July 20, 1893; attended the public schools; was graduated from the law department of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., in 1914; was admitted to the bar in 1915 and commenced practice in Dyersburg, Tenn.; enlisted in the Second Tennessee Infantry, National Guard, in May 1917, and on July 23, 1917, was commissioned a first lieutenant; on October 24, 1917, was transferred with his company to Company K, One Hundred and Nineteenth Infantry, Thirtieth Division, and served with this regiment throughout the First World War, participating in all its engagements in France and Belgium; on July 9, 1918, was promoted to captain and served as regimental adjutant until discharged from the Army on April 2, 1919; after the war resumed the practice of law in Dyersburg, Tenn.; a member of city council and city attorney 1920–1928; elected State commander of the American Legion of Tennessee in 1921; elected as a Democrat to the Seventy-first and to the fourteen succeeding Congresses and served from March 4, 1929, until his death in the naval hospital, Bethesda, Md., December 18, 1957; interment in Fairview Cemetery, Dyersburg, Tenn.

Memorial Services
for
Jere Cooper

Eighty-fifth Congress
Second Session

Proceedings in the House

TUESDAY, *January 7, 1958.*

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. Davis].

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to announce the sudden passing of our esteemed colleague, JERE COOPER, on December 18 last. On December 4, he suffered what was thought to be a mild heart attack. Under fine professional care, and with his complete cooperation, it was thought that he was recovering. So his death came as a great shock to his family and his many friends throughout the country.

His sudden death ended a 29-year career in the House of Representatives which he held in such deep affection. Representative COOPER was born in Dyersburg, Tenn., in 1893, and had worked since he was 12 years of age. By his own efforts he attended Cumberland University in our State, and was graduated with a bachelor of laws degree. He had a private law practice in Dyersburg, Tenn., and was city attorney for 8 years. During this time he enlisted in the State National Guard, was commissioned in 1917 and served with the 119th Infantry Regiment through its campaigns in France and Belgium during World War I.

He left the Army as a captain in 1919, and returned to his law practice. He first entered statewide politics when he managed the successful senatorial campaign for the late Lawrence Tyson, who had been his commanding officer during the war. He ran for the House when the incumbent decided to run for the Senate. He won the nomination over four Democratic rivals, and served continuously until his death.

Assigned first to the Committee on Flood Control, and later to the Elections and Veterans' Affairs Committees, he soon found himself a deep student of the National Government. When a Democratic vacancy occurred on the Ways and Means Committee in 1932, he was selected over several Members who were his senior.

He became chairman of that powerful committee in January 1955. He was chairman also of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, and a member of the Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures.

Some years ago he summed up his understanding of tax matters in a very few words. He said:

> My philosophy on taxes is very simple. I believe the 16th amendment to the Constitution means just what it says, which in effect, is that Congress shall have the authority to levy and collect taxes on income from whatever source derived. I think everyone should pay a fair share to the support of the Government.

Those of us who were closest to JERE COOPER recognized how quietly and yet so beautifully he carried his deep sorrows. In 1930 he married the former Mary Rankley, of Campbellsburg, Ky. She died 5 years later. Their only child, Jere, Jr., died in 1951 at the age of 16. Young Jere was being reared in the home of his aunt in Dyersburg. He was a bright youngster, and appeared to be in splendid health, but was mysteriously stricken in the middle of the night and passed away without his father being able to be with him in the last hours. It was just that sudden.

JERE is survived by a brother and three sisters.

All of us knew him as a man of unquestionable integrity. He was fully dedicated to his public office. He was loyal to his friends. He had an abiding and deep devotion and loyalty for our beloved Speaker, but he shared a quiet and almost reverent friendship and relationship with the Members of this House, regardless of political affiliations.

He did not care for the commonly known social side of life, but he did love people. We shall remember him as one of the outstanding presiding officers in this body. He was called upon to preside over the Committee of the Whole on many occasions. When the debate promised to be lengthy, the issues highly controversial, and the importance of a cool, intelligent, and fair presiding officer was needed, JERE COOPER was called.

Indeed, this House has lost one of its finest Members, all of us a true friend, and the Nation one of its most useful legislators.

To his family we extend our love, and as a part of these humble yet sincere remarks, I ask unanimous consent to include an editorial which appeared in the Memphis Commercial Appeal which so ably expresses the feelings of the great Midsouth section of our country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Frazier). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

REPRESENTATIVE JERE COOPER

The passing of Representative JERE COOPER, of Dyersburg, leaves this State and Nation bereaved.

He was of the soil. He went to work even before he was in his teens in order to acquire a basic education. He worked to pay his way through law school. When his country needed him, he volunteered to put on its uniform and went off to war.

Public service appealed to him and he began his long and honorable career in one of the best of elemental political schools—municipal government. From there he went on to the legislature and then to Congress. He was first elected to the House in 1928 and for three decades his constituents returned him to a seat which he occupied with dignity, with honesty, and with fearlessness.

Some of the elements of his background, some of his characteristics and certainly many of his outlooks were remindful of the late Cordell Hull. The form of the two molds had much similarity and it is not unusual that the congressional record of JERE COOPER was one of vigorous support of causes to which Cordell Hull was devoted, notably that of the reciprocal trade program.

He was a consistent and outspoken champion of TVA, of practical flood control and navigational programs, and of sound and realistic agricultural practices.

He was chairman of the very powerful Ways and Means Committee and he exercised that responsibility with wisdom and discretion.

He had the respect of the whole House without regard to party affiliation. He did not commit himself lightly, but when he did the word was the bond.

One magazine writer once described him as the "loneliest man in Washington." Actually, he was more shy than retiring. He had known great grief and the memories from which it stemmed were held dear and sacred.

The loneliness stopped there, for no man could be lonely who could live honestly with himself, his ideals and the very evident love and devotion of his neighbors and friends. The bounds of those are the bounds of the State and country he served so well.

Mr. EVINS. Mr. Speaker will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. EVINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay a brief but sincere tribute to our late departed friend, JERE COOPER, and join with our new dean of the Tennessee delegation, Clifford Davis, in paying tribute to him.

Mr. Speaker, in the passing of our beloved friend, JERE COOPER, the State of Tennessee, has lost one of her most distinguished sons, and the Nation one of its most effective statesmen, and we in this body have lost a highly esteemed colleague and leader. Words are sometimes inadequate to express either the personal sorrow we feel at his passing or to pay adequate tribute to his achievements and to the influence his life and personality exerted on the history of our Nation during the almost 30 years of his service in this Chamber. Simplicity and humility were the core of his personality.

JERE COOPER was not one to seek the dramatic spotlight or to seek headlines. His forte was not in belligerent aggressiveness but rather in a quiet, unemotional, logical appeal to reason. I have known no Member of this House who had a more considerate and conscientious regard for his colleagues

and their problems; and no Member who was more generous with his friendships and his wise counsel and more willing to help any Member of this body and the newcomers to these Halls than JERE COOPER. He was dependable—and always on the job, attentive to duty and a faithful public servant.

He rose from humble beginnings to great heights as chairman and ranking member of the great Committee on Ways and Means and a position high in the councils of his party. As the dean of the Tennessee delegation in the House, he provided wise and effective leadership of the delegation on behalf of the entire State; but always with a broad perspective and a statesmanlike lack of provincialism. He was a man who fought for the things he believed in without belligerence and with tolerance for those who differed with him. There was an unswerving devotion manifest in his life to the high principles which motivated his thinking and philosophy. The people of Tennessee and the Nation can be grateful to him for a dedicated life of public service. He championed the cause of the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Cordell Hull Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, and tax revision with fairness and justice to all. These among other great legislative acts will stand as monuments to JERE COOPER'S public service.

It was my privilege to have known JERE COOPER for many years prior to coming to Congress. I well recall that the very first meeting of the Democratic caucus I attended prior to the opening of the 80th Congress was presided over by our late friend. He was renowned as one of the best presiding officers in our ranks and our great Speaker has attested to this by calling upon him frequently to serve as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole and Speaker pro tempore. JERE COOPER was one of the most able parliamentarians of the House and a skilled presiding officer. He was a great chairman of the powerful and important Committee on Ways and Means. He exercised the powers and prerogatives of chairman of his committee with scrupulous fairness and a high degree of statesmanship.

He was born in Dyer County, Tenn., in 1893; educated in the public schools of our State, and received a law degree from Tennessee's famed law school of Cumberland University at Lebanon in the district which I have the honor to represent. A lawyer by profession he practiced law until the outbreak of World War I. He served during the First World War in the American Expeditionary Forces, being discharged as captain. The high regard of his comrades was demonstrated shortly after the war when he was elected State commander of the American Legion in Tennessee. The late General Tyson, who had commanded the Tennessee regiment during that war, when undertaking his successful campaign for the Senate of the United States chose the young veteran JERE COOPER to serve as his campaign manager.

In 1929 the people of his district elected him to serve in Congress and, as we all know, he served continuously ever since—for 15 consecutive terms.

I shall miss him particularly, for I valued his counsel and advice and, above all, his warm friendship. And so will thousands of his friends and constituents. As a member of the official delegation I attended his funeral in Dyersburg, Tenn., along with several other Members of the House. Even those of us who knew his capacity for making friends and keeping them were astonished by the outpouring of his friends and neighbors at these sad final rites for our friend and colleague. In fact, it became necessary to install a public address system outside the church so that the many who could not find room inside the church could hear the beautiful tribute paid him by the minister.

The legacy JERE COOPER left us is a precious one and one which all of us can profit from if we but remember the example of his career. True to ideals and friends, dedicated to service, his memory will live on in the highest traditions of statesmanship in the history of his district, State, and Nation.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. Halleck].

Mr. HALLECK. Mr. Speaker, I want to join with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in this justly deserved tribute to the memory of a distinguished Member of this body, JERE COOPER.

The span of years during which it was his privilege to serve the Nation, as it has been my privilege, have been difficult years—at one time years of economic hardship, at other times, years of war, and, more lately years of peace beset with heavy problems for all of us.

My earliest recollections of JERE COOPER go back to the time when I was a freshman member of the minority party and he was, in my eyes at least, a veteran of the opposition.

There came a time when mine was the responsibility of majority leadership and JERE COOPER was the highly respected ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

But whether the ball was in our hands—on this side of the aisle—or otherwise, I want to say this about my experience in working with JERE COOPER:

When he took a position, when he declared a course of action on any matter before us, when he gave his word on any issue, large or small, we knew exactly where he stood.

Others today have borne witness to the many qualities of our departed colleague; his high competence, his knowledge of the parliamentary process, his loyalty, and his energy.

For these he earned the admiration and respect of all of us.

But I will always remember JERE COOPER primarily as a man of complete good faith, and as I look ahead to the work before us in this new session I am deeply sorry that we have lost his services to the House and, above all, to the Nation.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. MILLS], his immediate successor as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. MILLS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to pay my respects to the memory of our departed colleague, my very close personal friend of many years, the beloved and respected chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, JERE COOPER.

JERE COOPER'S death came as a great shock to all of us, and we have all been deeply grieved. I believe I can say that I was as close to JERE as any Member of the House and hence the shock to me was all the greater because of the close personal friendship which he and I enjoyed over the years, and due to our very close and harmonious work together on the Committee on Ways and Means. I have lost a true and valued friend; the Nation has lost a true and valued statesman.

There will be many who will speak of the outstanding attributes of JERE COOPER as a statesman and as a patriot, and I could do so at great length and with deepest sincerity. However, in view of our close personal friendship, I would like to direct my brief remarks to some of his more outstanding personal characteristics at this time. JERE was a man of great integrity. His word was indeed his bond and nothing more was ever needed from him. He did not have to give his word twice—once was enough, because he never gave it lightly or without careful prior thought. His word carried great weight with his colleagues. I speak of this aspect of his character first because from among his many sterling attributes I believe it would be one of the most salient of all. As I have indicated, JERE never lightly gave his word, assumed a position, or conveyed an impression, but when he did come to a conclusion or take a position he would stand like the Rock of Gibraltar against those who sought to oppose that point of view and he was formidable in carrying forward that position with his colleagues.

JERE was a man of great dignity. Those of us who have worked with him closely over the years and have observed

his demeanor in committee, on the floor of the House of Representatives, and during the hours when the Congress or the committee was not in session have always been impressed with this quality. I have heard many new Members of this great body, who have observed his activities on the floor for the first time, comment about this outstanding attribute. There have been many times when all of us have watched him at his accustomed place on the floor of the House carefully thinking through the points made by his colleagues with respect to legislation pending before the House and giving deep thought to the manner in which these proposals would affect the many thousands of Americans throughout the Nation.

JERE COOPER was a man of great humility and modesty. While he possessed an extremely keen and analytical mind which was capable of going to the crux of a complex problem and stating it in simple terms which all could understand, he always did this in a modest and unassuming way. Thus, while he possessed this great quality of humility which has been found in our outstanding leaders down through the years, he was, at the same time, tough and courageous. He was a man of strong will and could not be swayed, once he had carefully come to a conclusion based upon all of the facts available, by the pressures to which we are all subject from time to time in connection with various proposals advanced for our consideration.

Another outstanding attribute which I cannot fail to mention was his innate sense of fairness. Many, many times I have heard him make the statement, both in committee, and on the floor of this House, that such-and-such a proposal which was then being pressed upon us was simply unfair. I believe that it is this basic and highly developed sense of fairness which in great measure contributed to his outstanding leadership as chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, because we all know, and particularly those of us privileged to sit on the committee, that the legislation with

which we deal, including taxes, tariffs, and social-security measures, affects the lives of each and every American, no matter what their station in life may be. Thus it is that I speak of this quality of fairness which is so necessary for persons who are assigned to pass initially on these great and important categories of legislation.

JERE COOPER was said to be a lonely man. I do not believe he was lonely, because no man who has the deep respect and admiration of his colleagues in this body and of the host of close personal friends throughout the country and in his congressional district as did JERE COOPER could in fact be lonely. He was a devout Christian gentleman who had been put to great personal tests during his lifetime, including the untimely and sad loss of his dear wife only a few years after their marriage and the sudden and tragic loss of his only son just a few years ago. He sought and received great strength through his devotion to Christian principles and to his duties as a Representative of his district and of his Nation. He took his responsibilities seriously, and his Christian courage and outstanding leadership will serve as a source of inspiration to all of us in the days and years to come.

We all feel a deep sense of personal loss, and the magnitude of my loss through his death certainly cannot be adequately expressed in these few words.

I join with all my colleagues in paying tribute to the memory of this outstanding Christian gentleman, patriot, and statesman, and in extending to members of his family our deepest sympathy and condolence.

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I yield to the gentleman from New York [Mr. Reed].

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, the convening of this 2d session of the 85th Congress is marked with a sadness that transcends in significance other aspects of this historic day. The sad-

ness arises from the fact that this is the time designated to pay tribute in the House of Representatives to the revered memory of a noble statesman, a valorous patriot, and selfless public servant—the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Dyersburg, Tenn. As these expressions are made today in praise of his accomplishments and in honor of his memory, there is no one present in this hallowed Chamber who has not sustained a profound loss with the untimely passing of our beloved colleague on December 18, 1957.

For those of us who were particularly privileged to serve with Mr. COOPER as his colleagues on the House Committee on Ways and Means and under his distinguished chairmanship of that great committee, the magnitude of our loss has been enhanced by the closeness of our association. With his passing it is to the inspiration of his memory that we must look for guidance in meeting the problems and responsibilities confronting us today and with respect to the future. His example and the rich knowledge that is ours from our cherished association with him will serve to strengthen the character, wisdom, and courage that we bring to the performance of our duties.

I have been honored to serve in the United States House of Representatives with Mr. COOPER for almost 3 decades and we have been colleagues together on the House Committee on Ways and Means for almost that same length of time. In that period Mr. COOPER'S every act and his every statement exemplified the virtues of integrity, principle, and honor that he possessed in such unmatched abundance. In the rewarding period of our association together JERE COOPER was more than my honored colleague, he was my beloved friend.

The mortal remains of Mr. COOPER have returned for interment to his beloved Dyersburg, Tenn., so as to finally rest among the friends and constituents that he served so well. To us remains his memory and I submit to my colleagues that by virtue of that memory and its inspiration we are

better men. That the Honorable JERE COOPER has passed from our presence will not prevent us from thinking of him often and seeking his guidance as we deal with the great issues confronting our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, this morning at 9:30 Mr. COOPER's colleagues on the Committee on Ways and Means met in executive session and unanimously adopted a resolution testifying to the sorrow of his committee colleagues over Mr. COOPER's passing and testifying also to the outstanding record of public service achieved by this noble statesman. At the direction of the Committee on Ways and Means I include that resolution as a part of my remarks at this point.

Whereas the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Dyersburg, Tenn., Representative of the Eighth Congressional District of Tennessee, served with eminent distinction and great patriotism as a Member of the United States House of Representatives continuously since March 1929, as a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means continuously since July 1932, in addition to other important capacities, and as the chairman of said House Committee on Ways and Means continuously since January 1955; and

Whereas the Honorable JERE COOPER served his Nation with valor in time of war as a commissioned officer in the American Expeditionary Forces, participating with great bravery in engagements with the enemy in France and Belgium; and

Whereas in both peace and war the Honorable JERE COOPER acquitted his duties and responsibilities to the citizens of his State of Tennessee and to the citizens of his Nation with statesmanship, courage, wisdom, and foresight so as to render his public service an inspiring example to his colleagues, in the United States Congress, to his countrymen, and to the causes of peace and freedom in behalf of all men: Therefore be it

Resolved by the membership of the House Committee on Ways and Means assembled, That said committee membership express its profound sorrow over the untimely passing of their beloved chairman on December 18, 1957, and that the Committee on Ways and Means when it adjourn today shall adjourn in reverence to his memory; and be it further

Resolved by the membership of the House Committee on Ways and Means assembled, That a copy of this aforestated resolution be sent to the beloved family of our late distinguished colleague and chairman, the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Dyersburg, Tenn.

Approved and adopted this 7th day of January 1958, by the unanimous vote of the membership of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Attest:

WILBUR D. MILLS,
Member of Congress.
DANIEL A. REED,
Member of Congress.

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, as a part of my remarks I insert a copy of a statement I released following Mr. COOPER's death.

It is with profound sorrow that I express my most heartfelt condolence to the beloved friends and neighbors—the constituents of a great American, the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Tennessee. His untimely death is a tragic loss to our Nation. I share with his fine people the cherished privilege of his friendship. That Mr. COOPER has passed bodily from our midst is according to God's divine will that is determined for reasons not always within our understanding. It is within our understanding that his virtues of patriotism, integrity, and great wisdom are examples to each of us and they should inspire us to seek to emulate the standard he has set. It is perhaps not to be expected we will equal his attainments but it is to be expected we will honor his memory by working with his same selflessness and vigor in behalf of the American ideals for which he so resolutely stood.

For almost three decades I have been honored to serve in the United States House of Representatives with Mr. COOPER and for only shortly less time than that we have been colleagues together on the House Committee on Ways and Means. In this rewarding period our friendship has been continually enriched and my respect for his character and ability has been increasingly enhanced. In conflict and in peace, in periods of hope and in moments of despair, JERE COOPER rendered stalwart service in devotion to his country, in allegiance to its rich traditions, and in confidence of its bountiful future.

As Mr. COOPER has abided by the honored tenets initially established by those immortal Americans, Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson, so has he added the example of his own illustrious public service as an inspiration and a guide to those he left to carry on.

His beloved State of Tennessee and his Nation that he served so well justifiably pause in sadness to honor his distinguished memory.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, the favorable action unanimously taken by the membership of the House in honoring my colleague and new chairman, the Honorable Wilbur D. Mills, of Arkansas, is an action that I am confident will always reflect great credit on the considered judgment of this august body. This House will soon undertake to eulogize our beloved former chairman, the Honorable JERE COOPER. The necessity for the orderly conduct of governmental affairs has required that we promptly designate his successor as chairman of the great Committee on Ways and Means. It is not in a sense of forgetting the illustrious memory of Mr. COOPER that I make this statement of commendation to the House with respect to the designation of Mr. Mills as his successor. Indeed, I am confident that to Mr. COOPER will properly go much of the credit for the outstanding record that Mr. Mills will achieve as Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Mills is a distinguished and selfless public servant who has demonstrated great ability, capacity for leadership, and courage in judgment in the conduct of the Nation's legislative affairs. I take this opportunity to pledge to him my wholehearted support and to express confidence that his already great contribution to the welfare of our Nation will be immeasurably enhanced in the years ahead.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. Boggs].

Mr. BOGGS. Mr. Speaker, I know that there is little that one can add to the magnificent tributes which have already been paid our late distinguished colleague, the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, the Honorable JERE COOPER. I think, however, that each of us creates an impression of himself as he goes through life, and the one great impression that I have of my great chairman is the word that has been used so often here this afternoon, "integrity." JERE COOPER was the essence, the quintessence, of honesty. Occasionally one might disagree with him, but one never questioned his motives. It made no difference from whence pressures came, JERE COOPER stood literally like the Rock of Gibraltar once he was convinced that his course was right and proper and in the interest of his country.

This great devotion to our country was one that inspired all of his colleagues.

I recall, Mr. Speaker, several years ago when JERE COOPER had substantial opposition back in his home district. A younger man was giving him a strong race. But, at the time there was a heavy legislation scheduled here both in the Committee on Ways and Means and in this Chamber, and JERE COOPER, in traditional fashion, and characteristic of his devotion to his country and to his position, refused to leave this Chamber and go back home and protect his own interest.

He was a great legislator. He bore ably the responsibilities of drafting tax legislation which, as all of you know, is one of the grave, difficult problems which confront all of us in the House of Representatives where all tax legislation must originate under our Constitution.

He handled social-security legislation admirably. I recall that never did he get very far away from the people in handling these major issues. I remember with amusement and with pleasure how he would refer to some humble citizen back in his own district when some major legislative matter was up. For instance, when we were discussing coverage for

the self-employed, he would invariably talk about his barber back in Dyersburg whose employees were covered, but the barber was not.

He was one of the great advocates of the Cordell Hull tradition of trade agreements legislation and made a tremendous contribution to that landmark of American friendship throughout the world.

He presided for many years with great dignity as chairman of the Democratic caucus and he was a parliamentarian without peer.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, we have lost one of our great leaders, one of our great Members. And I say this in all sincerity, that he died as he would have chosen to die, as a Member of this body, deep in its love and deep in the love of his fellow Members.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Jenkins].

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, it was my pleasure to serve here with JERE COOPER during all the time he served. I want to say today, as I have listened to the remarks of the various Congressmen concerning JERE COOPER that I should like to be able to send back to his people, to his relatives, the information of the high esteem in which he was held here in this Congress. They have a right to be proud of him and his achievements.

Mr. Speaker, the remarks that have been so eloquently stated by those who have preceded me in eulogizing our beloved late colleague, the Honorable JERE COOPER of Dyersburg, are indeed deserved tribute to a great American and I believe demonstrates in part at least the extent to which he will be so sorely missed by those of us who remain to carry on the responsibilities of governmental affairs. I have been privileged to know and to serve with JERE COOPER for a long time. During this period I valued his friendship and admired his professional ability as a legislator and as a leader. You may

be assured that the rich memories of those years will always be cherished by me.

Mr. COOPER played a vital role in the development of legislation affecting such important legislative subjects as taxation, social security, tariffs, and veterans' affairs. In addition to performing valiant service with respect to these national issues Mr. COOPER was also effective in bringing about the adoption of legislative measures beneficial to his State of Tennessee and to his home constituency.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield to my colleague, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. BASS].

Mr. BASS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, few men in our world's history have lived lives that became symbols; the life of JERE COOPER was symbolic of statesmanship, astuteness, precision and complete greatness. His was a life that will long be remembered as one of absolute dedication. I doubt if there have been many men who have served in this great body whose full time was more completely devoted to his work than was JERE COOPER'S.

Although I had known Mr. COOPER personally for only the period of time that I had served with him here in the Congress, I had heard and read of him since I was a small boy. I learned after knowing him that all of the tributes I had heard paid him in Tennessee were true and factual. I feel that through association with JERE COOPER, I have been privileged to attend a great school of legislative statesmanship. His work in the Congress will long be remembered by his colleagues and will forever be studied by posterity.

JERE COOPER'S untimely and unexpected passing leaves us with saddened hearts; however, a great amount of condolence can come from knowing that his life was one well spent. I join with my colleagues and friends in the House of Representatives in extending my sympathy during their grief to his family and to his professional staff that I know loved him so well.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. Forand].

Mr. FORAND. Mr. Speaker, with a heart full of sadness I join my colleagues in this humble tribute to a great man, a great statesman, a great patriot, the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Tennessee.

His untimely passing was a great shock to all of us and has left a void that will be hard to fill, not only in the United States Congress, but also in the Committee on Ways and Means where he was a guiding light to all of us, as well as a leader that we were happy to follow.

He was a real patriot and his every action was motivated by a desire to do what was best for our country and its people.

To know JERE COOPER was to love him. He was a kind man and gave his all for his fellow man.

We shall miss him and never forget that this world is better because JERE lived.

To his family I extend my heartfelt sympathy and pray God that He give them strength in their hour of sorrow.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to our distinguished majority leader, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. McCormack].

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, the first regular term our dear friend JERE COOPER was elected to was my first regular term in this body. I preceded him by about 3 months because I was elected to fill an unexpired term, but as far as the regular terms are concerned JERE COOPER and I entered this body together and we served in this body throughout the years until his very unfortunate death.

For 8 of the 10 years that I served on the Committee on Ways and Means, JERE COOPER was also a member of that committee. I served on that committee from 1930 to 1940, when I was elected majority leader and resigned from the

committee. JERE COOPER was elected to the committee in 1932.

Our associations were most cordial and most pleasant. Between us there developed a very strong, permanent, and lasting friendship. I may say, also, that he and Mrs. Cooper, who was a wonderful girl, lived in the Hotel Washington, where Mrs. McCormack and I have lived since I have been a Member of Congress. Mrs. McCormack and the late Mrs. Cooper and also JERE COOPER as the years went by became very close personal friends. We knew his dear boy, who has been referred to by my friend from Tennessee [Mr. Davis] and others. It was really a tragedy in his life when his son died. Mrs. Cooper was one of the finest ladies anyone could ever meet in the journey of life. JERE'S whole life was wrapped up in her and his fine son. When one said he had a sad life, it was not sad from the angle of public service or in view of his host of friends and admirers but it was sad from the angle of the catastrophes that happened to him during his own lifetime in the death of his dear wife and the death of his dear son.

JERE COOPER was everything that my colleague said about him. Above all, he was one with whom I could disagree without being disagreeable. In my opinion, he was one of the greatest statesmen in the entire history of our country. The spirit of JERE COOPER, his influence, what he stood for, those fine, deep, noble things, are what impressed us and caused our deep respect and admiration for him.

I was in Boston when I heard of his death. Mrs. McCormack and I were deeply grieved. His loss is a personal loss to us. His death is a great loss not only to our country and to the State of Tennessee, his district, and the Tennessee delegation in this body and the other body, but also to all of our colleagues.

To his brothers and sisters I extend in their sorrow the profound sympathy of Mrs. McCormack and myself. A gap

has been left in the House that is going to be most difficult to fill. Those of us who have known JERE COOPER will always remember him as long as we live.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my colleague, the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. LOSER].

Mr. LOSER. Mr. Speaker, I return to the Congress today with a feeling of deep personal loss. The Creator of us all has taken from our midst a warm personal friend of many years' standing.

In the passing of Congressman JERE COOPER the Congress of the United States has lost one of its outstanding Members. My own State of Tennessee has lost one of it leading statesmen. He was a great American who labored in the House of Representatives for more than 29 years. He had won the confidence and respect of the American people by his steadfast adherence to duty.

As the chairman of the great Committee on Ways and Means he rendered a service to this Nation that will stand as a monument to his memory.

His passing has a terrific personal impact on me. Shortly after I came to the Congress, JERE COOPER put his hand upon my shoulder and offered to assist me in my new endeavor in any way that he could. I accepted his offer and thereafter he became my trusted friend in the many and varied problems confronting a new Member of the Congress of the United States.

He was forthright and honorable. He was loyal to his God, his church, State, family, and friends. He was a dedicated legislator. He will be sorely missed in the House of Representatives.

I shall always cherish the memory of JERE COOPER.

I extend my deepest sympathy to the members of his family.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Machrowicz].

Mr. MACHROWICZ. Mr. Speaker, I, too, wish to join my colleagues and the many friends of the late JERE COOPER to express my respect to his memory. It was my privilege to attend the funeral services for JERE COOPER in the town that he loved so well, Dyersburg, Tenn. There I saw the many evidences of love and respect which his neighbors had for him. I have heard today from those who knew JERE COOPER many expressions reminding us of the fine characteristics which were so dear to us and which we all loved in JERE COOPER. But I shall always remember best the very simple but effective way in which his minister, Reverend Cross, described him at the funeral service. He described JERE COOPER simply as an "unselfish, devoted Christian statesman." Those are simple words, but JERE COOPER loved simplicity and it is as an unselfish, devoted Christian statesman that we in the entire country will remember JERE COOPER. I offer my sympathy to his family and I sincerely hope that the indelible mark which he has left in this Chamber will always remain with us to guide us in the work for our country.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend at this point the remarks made by the Reverend Cross on the occasion to which our colleague, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Machrowicz] has just referred.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Evins). Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

EULOGY DELIVERED BY THE REVEREND ERNEST C. CROSS, CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DYERSBURG, TENN.

The Holy Bible, the Word of God, reveals unto us that God is a Sovereign Ruler of all life, that He is all wise, all good, and all

powerful. No true believer would question these attributes of God at any season, and yet there are times in the circumstances of life that our limited human understanding may not fully grasp the meaning of God as He is related to our circumstance. Perhaps many times in the last few hours since this community and the State and Nation heard the tragic words of the passing of the Honorable JERE COOPER, many minds have entertained the question, "Why did this have to happen?" In the words of an early American, who wrote of the crisis of his time, "These are days that try men's souls." Perhaps never before was there a greater need of unselfish dedicated Christian statesmen than this hour. And so we might be inclined to wonder if God is all wise and good, why could He not have spared one so needed in this very serious day?

I would not be so presumptuous as to attempt to solve this problem or answer this question other than to offer the words of the apostle when he said, "All things work together for good to those who love the Lord," and I believe that is true. Or we might say as Jesus said to Simon one time, "That which I do thou knowest not now but thou shalt understand hereafter." Maybe the Master said to His servant the other evening, "You've labored long and well." "Well done, thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joys of thy Lord." Maybe in His all wise decision God has felt that He could bring into focus the pattern of statesmanship that we found in this departed servant that shall multiply his principles again and again in those that shall come after him.

Across the Nation, these days, have come many, many tributes from all levels of life from those who appreciated this great man. There are present in this sanctuary this afternoon those who knew him well as coworkers in the affairs of the State. Many could rise and more perfectly eulogize this gracious life than I today. There are members of this devoted family, this very closely knit family, who have exchanged tender words of love concerning his good and kind and sincere life. If they could express themselves they could paint a lovely picture of his life. I would not compete with these beautiful tributes, I would not attempt to add to them, such gracious words that have already been framed. But I would like

to speak briefly of him in another way. I speak of him today as a churchman, a Christian, a man of God and in this realm he held his highest office.

It would not be difficult today to find in the language of God's word some statement that is very appropriate for such a memorial service as this. It might be said as was spoken of Enoch, "He walked with God; and he was not; for God took him." We might say as of Barnabas, "He was a good man," with emphasis upon the good, "full of the Holy Ghost and of faith." We might say as Paul admonished Timothy, that he endured hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. But I found this expression that seemed to come back again and again to my mind in thinking of this hour, when David spoke of his loss in the passing of his servant Abner, "And the king said unto his servants, 'know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?' And I am this day weak, though anointed king." And I say again that surely there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel. He was a prince in this vicinity of his Israel. He was a champion in many ways. He was not only a veteran of foreign wars and a veteran of national and international conflicts, he was a veteran of personal trials in his own experience in life. A little more than a decade ago he returned home to face one of the greatest sorrows of his life, the loss of his companion. Sunday morning, February 4, 1951, he answered a telephone call to break his heart, that his young and brilliant 17-year-old son had suddenly passed way. I stood by his side in part of that hour of grief, I saw the strength of a great man undaunted by the grief of that occasion. A great man because he had a great God and a great source of strength by which to stand. He was a prince abroad as well as at home. Some months ago, someone labeled him as "the loneliest man in Washington." That statement might be questioned. He may have lived a solitary life, but I doubt that he was the loneliest man, for he was surrounded with interests and devotions of many people that well filled his life. He did not participate in the gaiety of social festivities as some others may have participated but he believed in the seriousness of his responsibility and he found greater pleasure in serving than in being served by any society. He fulfilled the words of the Master who said, "But he that is greatest among you,

let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that does serve." In this area of service he found the fullness of life.

Yes, a prince is fallen this day in Israel and it is altogether fitting that the last service be held at this altar. For this is the scene of his great spiritual devotion. It was at this place that he learned to pray and believe in God and know his word. It was at this altar where he renewed his strength day after day of worship. Every opportunity that he had when home, Sunday morning he was here in this sanctuary, for here he found renewal of strength to meet the responsibilities of his day. It has been commonly known that not a day passed, wherever he was, but what he was found sometime on his knees, somewhere within the Word of God finding counsel for the major decisions that rested upon him.

From this side of life a prince has fallen but from the eternal side of life we may more correctly say that a prince has risen. For his term of office did not expire December 18, 1957, but rather his work shall follow him on and on. The convictions, the principles, the ideals, the hopes, the vision of his life shall be reenacted again and again in the decisions, in the courage, in the loyalty of those who shall come after him. The name of JERE COOPER shall not be immortalized upon some granite slab but rather in the hearts of men and women, young people, rich and poor, weak and strong, whose lives were touched by his dedicated influence. The name of JERE COOPER shall be a symbol of good government that shall bring shame upon selfish and indiscreet leadership and shall inspire good men to be better men and to make of this country a land of peace and justice for which he spent the greater part of his life to achieve. So Mr. COOPER we could say to you today, that your life has not been in vain but we shall keep on holding up the ideals that you cherished, that the time may come when there shall be "peace on earth good will toward men." So in that upper and better Kingdom, where there is perfect government today, a statesman has been promoted. He has been rewarded with the rejoining of loved ones who have preceded him in death.

Yes, this district has lost a statesman, our Nation a leader, our church a dedicated official, the family a beloved brother, but heaven has gained a good life, a consecrated believer in the Sovereign Ruler of all life. A prince has fallen here but has risen over there.

"When sorrow comes, as come it must,
In God a man must put his trust.
There is no power in mortal speech
The anguish of his soul to reach,
No voice, however sweet and low,
Can comfort him or ease the blow.
He cannot from his fellow men
Take strength that will sustain him then.
With all that kindly hands will do,
And all that love may offer, too.
He must believe throughout the test
That God has willed it for the best.
We realize how helpless then
Are all the gifts of mortal men.
No words which we have power to say
Can take the sting of grief away—
That Power which marks the sparrow's fall
Must comfort and sustain us all.
When sorrow comes, as come it must,
In God a man must place his trust.
With all the wealth which he may own,
He cannot meet the test alone,
And only he may stand serene
Who has a faith on which to lean."

—*Edgar A. Guest.*

Our Blessed Heavenly Father, may Thine arms enfold these whose hearts are hurt and may the light of Thy countenance mark the path that our feet shall tread, and may we be true to faith committed to us and when we shall have found the end of our journey may it be said of us that we stood as a prince of Israel. May we hear the words of the Master spoken to us, "Well done good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler of many things; enter thou into the joys of thy Lord." Bless the entire area affected in the passing of this loved one in the name of the Holy Comforter even the Lord Jesus Christ, we most humbly pray.

Mr. O'BRIEN of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. O'BRIEN of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the death of the Honorable JERE COOPER takes from this body one of our most beloved and respected Members. I have served in the House with JERE since 1932, and we served side by side on the Committee on Ways and Means for many years. His death came as a great shock to me and I share the deep grief of all of us over his loss. We have lost an admired and respected colleague; the Nation has lost a statesman.

JERE was an outstanding chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. He was diligent in carrying out his duties; he was modest and unassuming but at the same time strong and courageous in fighting for those causes which he believed to be right; he was a highly able advocate on the floor of this House; and he was above all a Christian gentleman of the highest integrity.

I can say with no reservations whatsoever that JERE'S colleagues on the Committee on Ways and Means and in the House took great strength and inspiration from his leadership. We always paid very close attention when he spoke because he had a faculty for getting right to the nub of an issue in simple terms.

JERE COOPER was a man of the highest integrity and honesty. His word could be relied upon absolutely. He was a man of great dignity and fairness. I have never known him to be unfair to any Member or individual.

I have lost one of my best friends; the Nation has lost a great leader. I join in extending deepest sympathy to the members of JERE'S family.

Mr. ROGERS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. ROGERS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I join with the other Members in paying tribute to our departed colleague, JERE COOPER. It has been my privilege since being a Member of this House to know Mr. COOPER. We recognize that he has been an outstanding leader and factor in establishing legislation that has gone through this House in the last 25 years.

When I first came to Congress it was my privilege to discuss with Mr. COOPER many things. Often it was necessary for me to contact him in relation to constituent's matters. I always found him fair and decent and kind.

It was also my privilege to attend the services at Dyersburg, Tenn. It was there reflected by those who knew him best, the respect and honor and the distinction that he enjoyed in his own territory.

I join with the other Members in extending my sympathy to the members of his family.

Mr. BAILEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I yield to the distinguished gentleman from West Virginia.

Mr. BAILEY. Mr. Speaker, I, too, would like to join the members of the Tennessee delegation and the Congress and the members of the great Committee on Ways and Means in paying tribute to this distinguished statesman from Tennessee, the late JERE COOPER.

It has been my lot in the years I have been a Member of this House to be one of those who bitterly opposed the position of the distinguished Tennessean on matters relating to our trade policies. I have engaged in some bitter floor fights with the gentleman from Tennessee over the renewal of our trade agreement. I was very much impressed by the comments of the distinguished gentleman from Arkansas [Mr. Mills], in commenting on the sense of fairness of Mr. COOPER. In all of these fights in meetings of committees, and in the fights on this floor over the renewal of our trade

policies, I, too, have been impressed with his fairness. He was a strong and virile fighter for the things in which he believed.

I desire to express my appreciation of the work of the distinguished gentleman as a Member of Congress and as a member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The things that he has accomplished will long be remembered.

Mr. FRAZIER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I yield to my distinguished colleague.

Mr. FRAZIER. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise today to join with my colleagues in the House in their tributes to our friend and colleague, JERE COOPER. As dean of the delegation from Tennessee he was a tower of strength. He was a great leader for all of us. He advised us freely, but only when we requested his advice, because JERE COOPER did not give advice freely. I know that he truly believed in the old maxim that "unasked for advice is seldom needed." But when we sought his counsel and his advice he gave it willingly and freely.

I have known JERE since World War I. I knew him in his youth, and I knew him after he came to the Congress, and after I came here.

It has been said at times that he was a lonely man. I do not believe that JERE was lonely. He was not a gregarious person, but he was a most congenial companion. He was a great student and he loved to work on the great problems which confronted the House of Representatives. He was a great legislator, a great leader, and in my humble belief one of the greatest statesmen that ever graced this body.

We in Tennessee have lost a great leader and a good friend; the House of Representatives has lost a great statesman, a great parliamentarian, and the Nation has lost a leader and a statesman. Much time will pass before our grief and sense of loss is alleviated, but he will never be replaced in our

hearts. Tennessee and the Nation have lost a fine public servant, and we all mourn his passing.

I extend to his family and his constituents and friends in Tennessee my deepest sympathy upon the great loss they have sustained.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Jensen].

Mr. JENSEN. Mr. Speaker, it was with deep sorrow I learned of the passing of my beloved and esteemed friend JERE COOPER. I join with every Member of the Congress, and every person who knew JERE as we knew him here in saying that the things JERE did were done from a great kindly heart.

JERE COOPER, in my opinion, was one of the grandest, noblest, most honorable gentlemen who has ever graced the floor of the House of Representatives of the United States of America. I had many fine visits with JERE about legislation. He was always considerate; he always gave of his valuable time to counsel with me as he did with the rest of his colleagues.

I am sure the Honorable JERE COOPER of Tennessee will go down in history as one of the great statesmen of his time, and I pray that his enlightened leadership will be emulated over and over again by all of us who believe in this great, and good and blessed Nation of ours.

JERE COOPER had much to do in bringing about the economic condition of this Nation; he played a great part in the raising of revenue. He was fair and just; he always thought first about those who could not help themselves. I knew JERE COOPER'S heartbeat; I knew his high ideals, as you, my colleagues, knew them.

America can ill afford to lose men like JERE COOPER.

God rest his soul.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I thank the gentleman from Iowa and now yield to the gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. Murray].

Mr. MURRAY. Mr. Speaker, I am sure I knew JERE COOPER personally longer than any Member of this body. JERE and I were reared within 45 miles of one another, his home being in Dyersburg and mine in Jackson, and we were about the same age. I knew JERE COOPER back in his college days before World War I.

We became friends at that time and our friendship increased in warmth and respect over the years. I regarded JERE COOPER as one of my closest and most dependable friends. He was the soul of honor and sincerity. His word was his bond. I never heard anyone question the integrity of JERE COOPER.

He was the dean of the Tennessee delegation. He was a great soldier in World War I. After World War I he returned to his home in Dyersburg and became city attorney. His first entry into statewide politics was with the late United States Senator, Lawrence D. Tyson, when he managed his State campaign. JERE COOPER was elected to the House in 1928, succeeding a great legislator and outstanding statesman, Hon. Finis J. Garrett.

We will miss JERE COOPER. We will be deprived of his counsel and his wisdom. He was sincere, he was free from petty politics or guile of any kind. The Tennessee delegation will feel keenly his loss, as will the House of Representatives and the entire Congress in losing his able, outstanding services.

I extend my deepest sympathy to his three sisters and his brother. May I say in conclusion that JERE COOPER was a great statesman. He was truly an honored, respected leader in the House. He was one of the finest presiding officers I ever knew and he was a wise, experienced parliamentarian. Our Nation can ill afford at this time to lose a statesman of the caliber of JERE COOPER.

Mr. HERLONG. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I yield to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. Herlong].

Mr. HERLONG. Mr. Speaker, all of us were shocked and saddened by the untimely passing of the great and beloved chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. I join in expressing my deepest sympathy to his family.

JERE COOPER was one of the first people I met when I came to Congress. He was a devoted and effective public servant and served his constituency in a most capable manner. When he became chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means he assumed the heavy responsibilities of that position with dignity, confidence, and ability. These qualities inspired in those of us who were privileged to serve under him an assurance that here was a man on whom we could rely. As a presiding officer he was eminently fair, as you who have observed him functioning as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House and upon occasion as Acting Speaker will attest.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has lost one of its most distinguished Members, the people of his district in Tennessee have lost a most able Representative and all of us have lost a valued friend.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Dingell].

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to associate my remarks with those of the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. Davis] and the Members of this House who have paid tribute to this splendid son of the State of Tennessee, the late JERE COOPER.

I hesitated to join my voice in paying tribute to this great man because of my brief service in this body and because of the presence of many Members of this House who knew and worked with JERE COOPER so much longer than I. But I rise today, having known JERE COOPER since I was a little boy. I

have known him always as a man of great sincerity, a man of great courage, a man of great integrity. My father and he were as close as brothers. They sat together on the Committee on Ways and Means and they fought together for fair and equitable taxes for the people of this country. These two men sat on this committee during the years when the present-day tax laws of this country were formulated.

It is these tax laws which manifest the fairness, the wisdom, and the integrity of JERE COOPER. The lasting friendship and respect of the Congress and people of this country will stand as a memorial to this great son of the State of Tennessee. I feel a great personal loss in the knowledge that JERE COOPER will no longer sit in the Congress of the United States. Each Member of this House feels that same loss, and yet the personal loss which we, his colleagues and friends, feel for this wonderful man is very small when we consider the loss which the country and the State of Tennessee feel at the passing of JERE COOPER.

I want to extend to his staff, to his devoted friend and secretary, Miss Hope Hart, to his brothers and sisters, my own deep sympathy, the sympathy of my family and the sympathy of my mother who with my dad knew and respected JERE COOPER for the fine man he was. All of us, who respected and loved him, will pray to the good Lord that the soul of JERE COOPER will find everlasting peace in the arms of the God he loved and served here on earth.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts [Mrs. Rogers].

Mrs. ROGERS of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, to the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. Davis] I want to express my deepest sorrow at the passing of all that could pass in this world of JERE COOPER. I sympathize so deeply with the great State of Tennessee and the great southern section of our country in their loss of their most illustrious son. I sympathize so deeply with my colleagues in the

House in our loss and I sympathize so deeply in the Nation's loss. I cannot picture the House of Representatives without JERE COOPER. The history of his life is the life of an American boy grown and developed into greatness. I believe Judge Davis said that he started to work at 12 years of age, and I believe that work has never ceased. I hope he now from his labor is resting in God's mercy and in God's protection. I can see him now in the fight for the sort of taxation he wished. I can see him presiding over the House, as he did so many times, and I know of his granting my own wish to speak for a minute or two when members of his own committee and others sought time. I remember his tremendous ability as a legislator, his courtesy, his great dignity, and his quiet humor. In every sense of the word a true gentleman, he always seemed calm and unruffled. He never spoke of his losses and his own unhappiness, but he had a great sympathy for everyone else who was in trouble whether in a personal way or whether it was trouble in the district or in the Nation. I only wish that JERE COOPER could be with us today to help guide us in the days to come when we are fighting the most serious cold war we have ever fought. He would give to us honest and wise counsel and the strength of a great character and the courage of a lion. My deepest sympathy goes to his family and to his State.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. Karsten].

Mr. KARSTEN. Mr. Speaker, it was my privilege to know JERE COOPER for almost as long as I have been in Washington and during the past 3 years I was especially fortunate to have been able to serve with him on the Committee on Ways and Means.

While his untimely passing is a great loss to the people of his district as well as the Congress and our Nation, it is also a great personal loss to me. He was a man of many talents and virtues. Soldier, lawyer, leader of men, states-

man, and Congressman extraordinary describe JERE COOPER. We shall miss his leadership in the Committee on Ways and Means, as well as the House of Representatives, but we shall also miss him as a friend whose cardinal virtue was that of kindness.

JERE COOPER lived by the Golden Rule every day of his life. His kindness to everyone came from his heart. He was one who did not criticize others but, instead, sought to look for their good qualities. He was never too busy to lend a helping hand to all who appealed to him. He had a sincere interest in the welfare of others for kindness dominated his whole life. Like a host of others, I shall always remember and cherish his many kindnesses to me over the years.

To his brother and sisters and other members of the family of my friend JERE COOPER, I extend my deepest sympathy.

Mr. RAYBURN. Mr. Speaker, we have all lost a great friend in the passing of JERE COOPER. He was a man of impeccable character, of great ability and devotion to duty. The world is better for his having passed this way.

Mr. SIMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with heartfelt and profound sadness that I rise to pay tribute to the cherished memory of my beloved departed colleague and esteemed late chairman, the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Tennessee.

As one who was privileged to be closely associated with him over a rather considerable period, I can authoritatively state that Mr. COOPER was an extremely worthwhile friend, a noble public servant, and a patriotic statesman. He served well his constituents from his great State of Tennessee but he served equally well his fellow countrymen from every State in the Union. Mr. COOPER brought to his duties a conscientious energy and a farsighted wisdom that produced in him outstanding qualities of leadership.

There can be no doubt that the untimely passing of Mr. COOPER from our midst has increased the burdens that must

be borne by those of us who remain. Similarly there can be no doubt that because we have been enriched by his friendship and inspired by his leadership, we will be better qualified to cope with those added burdens. The honored memory of this distinguished citizen of Dyersburg will long remain as an inspiration and an example to aid us in dealing with the issues confronting our Nation.

I am saddened by the loss of Mr. COOPER's friendship but I am grateful for having once possessed it. His leadership will be missed but those on whom responsibility of leadership devolve will be better leaders because of his example. The greatness of our Nation was strengthened by Mr. COOPER's contribution to its achievement. The greatness of the future of our Nation will be enlarged if we will follow the ideals and principles for which Mr. COOPER stood.

We extend to Mr. COOPER's family our deepest sympathy.

Mr. EBERHARTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow that I join my colleagues in mourning the passing of our dear friend JERE COOPER, of Tennessee. His untimely death came as a tremendous shock to me; as it did to everyone, I know; and it is still difficult to realize that he will not be with us during this session of Congress.

I deem it a great privilege to have known JERE COOPER for many years, and to have served on the same committee with him ever since I was appointed to the Committee on Ways and Means in 1943, and under his chairmanship since the opening of the 84th Congress. I can say without reservation that I know of no Member of Congress who was more diligent or more hard working than the Congressman from the 8th District of Tennessee. He seldom missed a rollcall in the House and he was always in attendance at committee meetings.

His penchant for hard work was nothing recent—it had always been one of his prime characteristics, and was undoubtedly one of the assets that carried him through the

many hardships he had to face. He had not come from a wealthy family and had been forced to make his own way since the age of 12. Despite all his financial difficulties he managed to complete high school and go on to obtain his law degree at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tenn.

Unfortunately, the story of his personal life is not a completely happy one—it contained considerable sadness. His marriage, which began happily in 1930, ended tragically less than 5 years later when his wife died suddenly of pneumonia.

Filled with sorrow over the loss of his wife, his one consolation was his little son, Jere, junior, who was then only a baby. During the following years he divided his efforts between his work in Congress, and seeing to the needs of his son, who was a quiet studious boy, well liked by his classmates, and a source of great pride to his father. When he was 14, he made his first trip to Washington, which apparently remained in his memory as one of the greatest experiences of his life.

Then came the tragic developments of February 1951. While his father was with Jere, Jr., in their home in Dyersburg, Tenn., the boy went to sleep one evening only to awake during the night with nausea and convulsions. He died a few hours later, and the source of the trouble was never known. The second tragedy left Mr. COOPER without any close family life, and forced him more than ever to devote his interest and energy to his work in Washington.

JERE COOPER was a good man, and a kindly man. In a complex world he was one of the few people I have known who was able to maintain a simple set of values to which he rigorously adhered. We shall miss him greatly, both in the committee and in the House.

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, JERE COOPER was not an easy man to know well but it was easy for anyone to recognize that he was a man of sterling character and of great ability. He was a dependable man of intense feelings, with

definite convictions, and was not afraid to stand up for them. As a presiding officer he had few equals and, because of his thorough knowledge of the rules of parliamentary procedure, there were no situations he could not resolve. There was much personal sorrow in his life which he met with calm fortitude, commanding the sympathetic admiration of everyone. He was very brave.

I always had the greatest admiration for JERE COOPER and I shall miss him as indeed will everyone he came in contact with. The House of Representatives has lost a stalwart Member who contributed much and whose passing has left a great void. I extend my deepest sympathy to all his family and friends in this hour of their bereavement.

Mr. SADLAK. Mr. Speaker, JERE COOPER was my friend, my chairman, and my immediate neighbor sharing adjoining offices. Our association was friendly and our respective staffs were friendly.

From personal knowledge, I know the truth of the compliments and respect expressed on the floor today. I join in these sentiments. He was at all times "the gentleman from the Eighth District of Tennessee."

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, our Nation has suffered a great loss in the death of JERE COOPER. All of us have lost a friend. But this applies particularly to those of us who were so closely associated with him on the Ways and Means Committee.

Duty with him always came first. He was naturally primarily concerned with his work on the Ways and Means Committee, but in spite of his arduous duties as chairman he never neglected the work of the Congress as a whole.

We all remember his constant attendance on the floor where he kept himself fully informed of what was going on in matters which did not concern his committee. When he was requested by the Speaker, as he was so often, to preside over difficult sessions of the House, no one was a better presiding officer.

Coming from a district where he had had little opportunity to study financial matters, he made it a point when he was chosen for the Ways and Means Committee to make a deep study of the matters which came before it. Over the years he became a thorough expert on all details of taxation.

Though a strong partisan JERE when presiding was always fair to both sides of the aisle—on the floor as well as in committee.

He never broke his word to any Member.

We will miss him greatly.

Mr. BYRNES of Wisconsin. Mr Speaker I was shocked and grieved as I am sure all his colleagues were at the news of the passing of Congressman COOPER. We have lost a valued friend, a great legislator, and a great chairman of a great committee of this House. He will be sorely missed. I join in paying tribute to him and his memory.

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply grieved when I learned just a few days before Christmas of the untimely passing of my dear friend and colleague, the Honorable JERE COOPER.

His death brought sadness to me at Christmastime.

Congressman COOPER was Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of which I am a member, and since I have had the honor of being connected with that committee I had occasions to become much better acquainted with the distinguished chairman and I had grown to love and respect him more and more. He was also dean of the Tennessee delegation.

In serving on the committee and on the floor of this body with Congressman COOPER, I knew—even at times when I differed with him on the issues—that he was sincere and conscientious and that he would fight until the bitter end to win his point of view. He served the people of his district and the people of the entire Nation ably and faithfully for more than 30 years as a Member of the United States Con-

gress. He was, indeed, a great American statesman, a man of honor and of deep convictions. We all shall miss him.

I extend to his relatives and thousands of friends my heartfelt sympathy in the loss of a dear friend and a great leader.

Mr. DAGUE. Mr. Speaker, it is my firm belief that we are never so preoccupied with our own affairs that we cannot pause to admire the working of a great mind, and it was thus that I often found myself standing in open admiration of that great statesman, JERE COOPER, whose death has come at a time when we can ill afford to lose the benefit of his wisdom and the steadying influence of his firm hand.

Like the Master he has gone to meet, JERE COOPER was not unacquainted with grief, and to be close to him was to sense that his inward burden was most heavy. And yet, despite his seeming loneliness, he invariably rose to splendid heights when he was called upon to preside over this body, and the fact that he was designated to fill the Speaker's chair on so many occasions attested to the recognition of his ability as a parliamentarian and presiding officer.

It has always been heartening to me to realize that we never separate as parties when it comes to the evaluation of a Member who has been taken from us, and I know that we shall all join in lamenting the passing of this distinguished legislator whose memory will be kept forever green in the hearts of those who have been privileged to call him friend.

Mr. LANE. Representative JERE COOPER, of Tennessee, passed away the week before Christmas.

For almost 30 years he was a Member of this House and at the time of his death was chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee.

In this responsible post as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, he became an outstanding parliamentarian. Through the years his colleagues placed complete confidence in his judgment and in his integrity.

For JERE COOPER was a gentleman all the way.

In the heat of legislative battles, when partisan viewpoints and personalities tended toward extremes, the wise counsels and patient manner of Representative COOPER restored reason and dignity to the legislative process, such was the high respect in which he was held by all.

Like so many of the Members of this House, he came from a humble family, and learned at an early age the virtues of hard work. In the tradition of our classless society, he won recognition by his own efforts and developed the talents which were to serve his constituents and the Nation with distinction.

Lawyer, veteran, and churchworker, he lived every moment of his journey through life as one who never forgot his responsibilities to his country and to God.

JERE COOPER, the man from Tennessee, has left us for life eternal, but as with all men that we are privileged to know and admire, the memory of his fine human qualities will ever be a part of us.

His was the grace of quiet leadership that was dedicated to the best interests of a free people.

JERE COOPER has gone, but the years of work and friendship that we shared with him are an experience that we shall always treasure.

For he strengthened our faith in democratic institutions and in the ability of representative government to overcome any challenge from any quarter. May his example continue to inspire us as we face the stern tasks ahead.

Mr. MARTIN. Mr. Speaker, it was with great sadness that all of us read of the untimely death of JERE COOPER. It can be truthfully said he was a man without an enemy. A man of great ability, an expert in the field of tax and tariff legislation, and chairman of the great Ways and Means Committee, he commanded an important place in the House of Representatives. He will be sorely missed in the eventful days ahead.

As a parliamentarian, he possessed unusual skill and few men presided as gracefully as he. In my many years of close association with JERE COOPER, I never heard him utter an unkind word or criticism of another Member.

Men of the caliber of JERE COOPER gave a powerful strength to the Congress. Tennessee has lost a fine American and a great legislator in his death. My deepest sympathy is extended to his family in their hour of sorrow.

Mr. SMITH of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I want to join in the tributes being paid to JERE COOPER. He was a statesman of the old southern school. The dignity of his bearing was an example for all of us. The integrity of his positions on the issues before the Congress was an even more important example. It is a privilege to have served in the House of Representatives with him.

I include as part of my remarks a very fitting tribute paid him in the Memphis Commercial-Appeal by Morris Cunningham, the Washington correspondent for that paper:

MIDSOUTH WILL FEEL LOSS IN DEATH OF JERE COOPER, AN EFFICIENT LAWMAKER—IN HIS QUIET WAY REPRESENTATIVE FROM DYERSBURG HAD BECOME AN IMPORTANT LEADER AND POWER IN CONGRESS

(By Morris Cunningham)

WASHINGTON, January 4.—The death of Representative JERE COOPER was a distinct loss to the interests of the Midsouth.

His passing, in Bethesda Naval Hospital December 18, will be felt in many legislative, governmental, and political fields in the forthcoming session of Congress.

In his quiet, unassuming way, Mr. COOPER had become one of the leaders of Congress, a man known for his high degree of personal integrity. His views, as a consequence, always commanded respectful attention.

Never an accomplished speaker, his effectiveness in floor debates flowed from the obvious sincerity of his statements. This same quality served him equally well in the leadership councils to which he increasingly was invited.

Yet it was characteristic of Mr. COOPER that despite his steadily rising station and increasing responsibilities he never lost sight of the interests of his constituents.

No striver for national or international renown, no seeker of headlines, his interests were those of his district, his State, his region, and his country, in about that order.

His favorite newspaper was not the New York Times or any of the other big eastern papers so popular with the politically ambitious, but the Dyersburg State Gazette, which he faithfully read and kept stacked in his office.

FOUGHT FOR SOUTH'S WAY OF LIFE

With dignity and logic, he fought through the years for the Tennessee Valley Authority, for flood control, for cotton legislation, and for preserving the South's way of life.

The House's sixth-ranking Democrat, and chairman of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee, he was saddled with terribly complicated chores.

Foremost among them was the task of keeping the tax laws equitable and adequate for the Nation's needs. Many men understandably would have shrunk from such exacting demands, but by working unbelievably long hours Mr. COOPER handled them as well as his other duties.

For a great many years he had occupied the same single room in the unpretentious Washington hotel when he was in Washington, which was most of the year.

A familiar sight to the room clerks was Mr. COOPER coming in from the Capitol after dark with a stack of papers and books to be studied during the night.

His power and influence, as well as his dignity and excellent manners, made him one of Washington's most attractive figures socially, but only rarely would he accept one of the social invitations that cascaded upon him.

The glitter of Washington's international society held no attraction. The few invitations he accepted were related to his district or region. These included the occasional dinners and luncheons of the Tennessee Society in Washington, the annual dinner of the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association, and a few others.

LOST BOTH HIS WIFE AND SON

He enjoyed cigarettes, but was a resolute teetotaler in respect to anything alcoholic.

On behalf of Gov. Frank Clement, of Tennessee, I once persuaded him to attend a National Press Club party to present an honorary Tennessee colonelship to Tony Vaccaro, formerly of Memphis, who was retiring as president of the club.

Mr. COOPER's remarks were appropriately humorous and were well received. He seemed to be enjoying himself, but soon afterward he left, explaining that his nightly chores were waiting.

Because of his retiring nature and disinterest in personal publicity, Mr. COOPER was a poor news source. As a result, the important role he played in Congress was not well publicized.

An article by Sidney Shalett in the Saturday Evening Post, January 8, 1955, described him as the loneliest man in Washington.

A warm, friendly analysis, the article stressed the death of Mr. COOPER's wife in 1935, only 5 years after their marriage, and the subsequent death in 1951 of Jere, junior, 16, their only child.

Mr. COOPER undoubtedly brooded over both of these tragedies and they accounted for a great part of his seeming shyness and almost superhuman work schedule.

His talents, his dignity and logic, and his capacity for work will be missed.

Mr. KEOGH. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in expressing profound sadness and a deep sense of loss over the untimely death of my friend, the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, JERE COOPER.

JERE was, as has been so eloquently pointed out by my colleagues today, a Christian gentleman in the highest sense of the word. He was a man of great courage in the face of personal adversity; he was a legislator and statesman of outstanding ability; and he was one who possessed those personal attributes of character which we all admire and respect.

JERE COOPER was a man of sound judgment and possessed a deep understanding and knowledge of the operations of our Government and in particular the processes of this great legislative body. We have all observed him many times when he was sitting in the chair and the precise and careful manner in which he presided, with dignity and consideration for all, regardless of the point of view being at that time espoused by individual Members.

He served his district and his Nation with distinction, and as chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means he devoted all of his energies and all of his waking hours to

his heavy responsibilities and duties. He was a gentleman of strong will and great integrity. At the same time, as has also been so eloquently pointed out by my colleagues, he was a man of great modesty and unassuming in his personal demeanor.

His death was a shock to all of us, and I add my voice to those who have so fittingly paid tribute to him today. I extend my deepest condolences and sympathy to members of his family. The Christian example of his leadership will serve as an inspiration to all of us.

Mr. ASPINALL. Mr. Speaker, it is a sad occasion to return to the Congress following a recess to find that death has taken a colleague with whom one has served for many years. It was with a sad heart that I learned of the death of the Honorable JERE COOPER, but a few short weeks before he would have begun his 30th year of service to the people of his native State of Tennessee—and to the people of the Nation—in the House of Representatives.

All of us here in the House will miss him as a person, with his inherent kindness and friendly interest. And we shall all miss him as a colleague who had a great understanding of the rules of the House. We shall miss his ability in presiding, whether it was in the committee which he so ably chairmaned, or in the House itself. The House will not be quite the same without this dedicated man's devotion to the programs and interests of the people, and without that fairness which was always present in his relationships with his colleagues.

When one reflects on the death of a valued colleague there arises the question of why this man, who could have given many more years of service to his Nation, was taken. But we do not question the will of God, and we are reassured when we remember that JERE COOPER was a deeply religious man, devoted to Christian principles. He lived a life full of service

to his fellow man, and he leaves a lasting example of public service as a beacon to light the paths of those to follow.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, we shall miss this man as a great chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. We shall miss this man as an outstanding Member of the House of Representatives. And we shall miss him as a man among men.

Mr. BEAMER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to add my words of praise for JERE COOPER. When I first came to the Congress, he was one of the first men that I met and it seemed that our paths crossed on many occasions.

It was an early discovery that we both belonged to the same college fraternity. There were many other common interests which I hope I was privileged to share with this respected colleague of ours. I was impressed that he was ever attentive to his duties in the Congress and always conscious of the responsibilities that his years of service and his position in the House of Representatives imposed upon him.

This is one of the marks of true statesmanship which could be an example to many others.

Another outstanding characteristic of JERE COOPER was the fact that he believed in those principles that had made this country great, and he was not one to foresake those principles for some of the many untried and false theories which unfortunately are being presented to all of us by certain groups.

Furthermore, he was exemplary in the fact that he did not speak often but when he spoke, all Members listened.

In pointing out these characteristics, I wish to include an editorial from the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette under date of December 20, 1957:

PASSING OF JERE COOPER

Many American citizens may not be conscious of ever having read or heard the name of JERE COOPER, yet he was one of the most powerful men in our National Government.

COOPER, who was Congressman from the Eighth Tennessee District, died Wednesday night at the Bethesda Naval Hospital.

He was chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee which handles tax legislation. This is one of the most responsible jobs in Congress.

Despite his power, COOPER did not get many headlines. He was modest and retiring and a bachelor. He gave most of his time and attention to his important duties.

The man who is in line to succeed COOPER as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee is Representative Wilbur Mills of the Second Arkansas District. Mills is 48 years of age and a graduate of Harvard Law School. He is a conservative Democrat and brings to his new position a vast amount of experience, having been a Member of Congress since 1939.

It might be said in passing that the officeholders who make the most noise do not always wield the most power.

Mr. HOFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, permit me to join in and endorse the statements which have been made by my colleagues.

Anything that might here be said by me would not adequately express my respect for the ability, integrity, and public service which was in this body rendered by our departed colleague, JERE COOPER.

Departing, no man could leave behind him greater admiration for the record made by our colleague than did he.

Always faithful to the trust reposed in him by his people; neither he nor his friends have any cause to regret either the manner or the degree in which he performed his duty.

He left a record which all may seek to equal—few, if any, will ever excel.

Mr. PATMAN. Mr. Speaker, JERE COOPER and I first came to Congress at the same time. Serving here with him over the past 30 years has been, for me, a rich and rewarding experience. I grieve for his loss deeply and personally; this body will miss him, the country will miss him.

We are indebted to a generous province that we have had among us such a great patriot, blessed with extraordinary talents and dedicated to the service of his country. With these talents, and in his allotted time, JERE COOPER has built a monument of service and good accomplishments far higher

than any monument we could build to him. This monument will live and endure. His accomplishments will continue to serve the good of mankind, and his service will continue to inspire other men and women to great and good accomplishments.

Mr. DOYLE. Upon my entrance upon my duties as a Member of this great legislative body, about 11 years ago, I was immediately attracted to the evident fairness, soundness, sincerity, and ability of JERE COOPER in his every debate upon the floor or when he presided as Acting Speaker or Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. I also noted his cordial attitude toward Members who spoke with him. Therefore, I promptly began to submit some of my problems as a freshman Member to him. I always found him approachable and generous with his time and talent.

I suppose in about a dozen instances during these six terms I sought and relied upon his suggestions in answer to my questions. His able, sincere, Christian statesmanship and behavior appealed to me from the start.

The last subject I discussed with him, and about which I sought his mature judgment, was that of less than honorable discharges from the Military Establishments. He again freely gave me cordial hearing for a few minutes and then pleased me much by his telling me of some of the cases of lads who had received less than honorable discharges of one type or another; he greatly encouraged me and was truly helpful in the passage by the House of that bill.

When I read in the Washington paper a short time ago of his illness I naturally rushed to him at the hospital a short Christmas greeting and message of good will for his speedy and complete recovery. I am so thankful he received it a few days before his untimely death. And then I received from his loyal secretary the following letter:

MY DEAR FRIEND: Your Christmas greeting card was received in this office just before the death of our beloved Congressman, the Honorable JERE COOPER.

Mr. COOPER always enjoyed his Christmas cards and took great pleasure in answering each one with a personal letter. I visited him at the hospital just a few hours before he died and took the unanswered cards and letters that had come in up to that day. He had me read each one of them to him and then asked me to acknowledge them and bring them back for his signature. He was in good spirits and talked about returning to his office in a few weeks. That was my last visit with him. His sudden death, with its shock and grief to his office staff, has delayed this message until today.

If you care to correspond with this office during the next month about any service we may be able to render, you may send a letter to the address given below.

With my wish for the blessings of good health, peace, and happiness in the coming New Year, I am,

Sincerely your friend,

HOPE HART, *Secretary.*

Mrs. Doyle and I extend to his family our sincere and understanding sympathy. Even though he has passed on to his just reward and is no longer personally present daily in our midst, I know you will agree with me when I say of his life amongst us that it was a timely example of the power which a sincere, honest, upright, able, and dedicated life is certain to generate and perpetuate.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I deeply regret the untimely passing of my good friend and beloved colleague, the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Dyersburg, Tenn.

JERE was first elected to the 71st Congress and served continuously in this body until the time of his death at the Bethesda Naval Hospital on December 18 last.

As chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives he served with great honor and distinction. He was a fine American, one whose first thought was of his country and of the people he represented in the Eighth Congressional District of the State of Tennessee. JERE commanded the respect and admiration of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle. He was always kind, just, and humble in his dealings with his fellow men and was, in my opinion, a gentleman of the old school.

I have lost a true and dear friend, and I shall for the rest of my life have a very warm recollection of JERE COOPER.

Mr. BURNS of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, in joining with my colleagues of the House of Representatives in the final tribute to a highly respected and dearly beloved colleague, I am extremely conscious of the fact that without exception the Members of this House are generously kind and graciously courteous to freshmen Members. At least I have found this to be so.

No one was kinder, more gracious, nor more helpful than the outstanding and distinguished chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, the esteemed and respected gentleman from Tennessee, the Honorable JERE COOPER. Though occupied with onerous and most responsible duties as chairman of the great Committee on Ways and Means—a subject in which he was extremely knowledgeable—JERE COOPER always had time for a friendly and encouraging word, sound advice on a problem, or a helping hand for those in need.

I had not known that JERE COOPER was ill. Following my return from Hawaii and from committee activities after the adjournment of Congress, I picked up the paper on December 17, 1957, and noticed an item reporting that Chairman COOPER was ill and in the hospital. I am most grateful that instead of turning toward home that same evening, I continued on to the hospital on the off chance that I might be able to see him. At his insistence, I did see him and we talked briefly. His spirits were high, he looked well and he was confident of the future, for he asked me to come back when I could stay longer.

The next evening I heard a radio broadcast announcing that he had passed on. I thank from the bottom of my heart the Almighty who guides our steps that I had had this last opportunity.

For JERE COOPER had done me great honor. Typical of his kindness, he had invited me to sit with him one day in the dining room for lunch. This was a Saturday afternoon and

late. I did not get to lunch the next Saturday. The following Monday on the floor, Chairman COOPER asked where I had been on Saturday. As a result, we regularly had lunch together on Saturdays. I was thus afforded an opportunity of knowing the true breadth and greatness of as dedicated a servant of the people as has ever served the people of his district and of the States.

It is customary that we speak well of the dead. The Members and Delegates in the House speak well of their colleagues. None of the tribute, none of the praise, none of the accolade accorded JERE COOPER are exaggerated in the slightest. JERE COOPER deserves every bit of praise, every bit of honor and every tribute, and more, for he was a Christian who practiced his faith in his daily life.

To his surviving family and to his constituents I express my deepest sympathy. And, as I reflected on my loss, the loss of the country, and the mystery of the hereafter I was reminded of the poem we all know:

Abou Ben Adhem, may his tribe increase
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace
And saw within the moonlight in his room,
Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
An angel writing in a book of gold.
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold, and to the presence in the room, he said,
"What writest thou?"
The vision raised its head, and with a look made of all sweet accord, answered,
"The names of those who love the Lord."
"And is mine one" said Abou
"Nay, not so," replied the angel.
Abou spoke more low, but cheerily still; and said.
"I pray thee then, write me as one who loves his fellow men."
The angel wrote, and vanished.
The next night it came again with great wakening light,
And showed names whom Lord of God had blessed,
And, lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

I am sure that the name of JERE COOPER was mighty high on the list.

Mr. PHILBIN. Mr. Speaker, I was greatly shocked and deeply touched by the sad news of the sudden, untimely passing of our distinguished friend and beloved colleague, the Honorable JERE COOPER. Congressman COOPER was one of the great men of the House, and one of the great Americans of our time. He exemplified, in his personal and official life, the most cherished attributes of the dedicated statesman, and the most gracious and impressive qualities of a noble Christian gentleman.

JERE COOPER commanded the respect, admiration, and affection of every Member of the House. His career was typically American. By hard work, outstanding ability, perseverance, and courage, he rose steadily in life until he achieved one of the highest positions in the Congress of the United States. His contributions to our Nation were truly noteworthy and historic.

JERE COOPER was a modest and self-effacing man, devoid of bombast and hypocrisy, devoted to his family and friends and to his work.

A painstaking, brilliant student of government, particularly questions of taxation and revenue, and one of the greatest parliamentarians in the history of the House, he was resolute of purpose, dedicated in his Americanism, and indomitable in his ceaseless striving for the betterment of the American Government and the American people.

JERE COOPER was a man of many diverse interests, and his versatility and flexibility of mind enabled him to master the most intricate problems of statecraft. In his personal relationships, he was kindly, amiable, and thoughtful of others, invariably willing to hold out the hand of valued counsel and helpfulness to those who sought, in his alert, well-informed mind and rich experience, some solution to their problems.

Manifestly, the House can never adequately fill the void which his sorrowful demise has left in our official and per-

sonal lives. He was so distinctly a rare individual, and so devotedly a true champion of the House and of his country—stalwart, strong, and inspiring, noble of purpose, warm in his friendships, loved by family and friends, consecrated in the best sense to the fulfillment of America's noblest destiny that indeed we shall never look upon his like again.

In the House, in his district, in his State, and in the Nation, a giant oak has fallen, and we join in sorrowful tribute to his memory in mourning the great loss which his family, his constituency, and the Nation has suffered in the passing of this great, loyal son of the Volunteer State.

It is with a full heart indeed that I join with Members of the House in expressing my sympathy and condolences to his bereaved family. May the good Lord in His kindness and mercy lighten their heavy burden of sorrow, and may our noble friend, JERE COOPER, find lasting and abiding peace in his eternal home.

Mr. MAHON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join with others in paying tribute to the memory of the late JERE COOPER, the distinguished and able chairman of the great Committee on Ways and Means.

When I was first elected to Congress a number of years ago, I soon made the acquaintance of JERE COOPER, and it was not long before I discovered that he was a tower of strength in the House of Representatives. JERE COOPER was a man of tremendous energy and great ability. His devotion and dedication to duty were outstanding. I am glad that we live in a country that can produce men of the stature of the late Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. We honor ourselves today when we pay tribute to the memory of our departed colleague.

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, on the walls of the Ways and Means Committee hearing room are found oil paintings of former distinguished Members of this House who during the past 100 years have been chairmen of that great and important committee. An oil painting of JERE COOPER hangs there to show that he belongs to that galaxy of distinguished statesmen. In my humble opinion the name of JERE COOPER ranks very near the top of that roster.

JERE COOPER should be characterized as having been a perfectionist. Whatever activity or responsibility he undertook, whether presiding over the deliberations of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, presiding over the deliberations of the Ways and Means Committee, or standing in the well of the House to explain the intricacies of a complicated tax bill that was before the House for consideration and action, JERE COOPER could be said to be perfection itself. He was undoubtedly one of the most able, one of the best qualified, one of the most efficient Members of this House during the past quarter of a century.

In his attitude toward legislation, in his calm, logical, judicial manner of tackling knotty legislative matters, JERE COOPER reminded me of our former colleague, Fred Vinson, who afterward became Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. If JERE COOPER had been permitted to follow in the footsteps of Fred Vinson, he would undoubtedly have added grace and dignity to that Court, performed the duties of that office with great credit to himself, and with satisfaction to the majority of the American people, located in all sections of our great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, moments such as these call for words of solace, of hope, of encouragement. My sentiments are best expressed in the words of an unknown poet who wrote a short

poem entitled "There Is No Death." I offer it to you as an expression of my feelings at this time:

THERE IS NO DEATH

There is no death! the stars go down
To rise upon some other shore,
And bright in heaven's jeweled crown
They shine forevermore.

There is no death! the dust we tread
Shall change beneath the summer showers
To golden grain, or mellow fruit,
Or rainbow-tinted flowers.

There is no death! although we grieve
When beautiful familiar forms
That we have learned to love
Are torn from our embracing arms.

Although with bowed and breaking heart,
With sable garb and silent tread
We bear their senseless dust to earth,
And say that they are dead.

They are not dead! they have but passed
Beyond the mists that blind us here
Into the new and larger life
Of that serener sphere.

Tho' disenthralled and glorified
They still are here and love us yet:
The dear ones they have left behind
They never can forget.

And we, his colleagues, will not forget JERE COOPER.

Mrs. GRANAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I cannot let this occasion pass without mentioning the kindness which I received as a new Member of Congress last year from the Honorable JERE COOPER who had the patience and took the time to give me much useful advice in connection with my efforts to serve my constituents.

From time to time last year, when problems arose in my office dealing with matters before the Committee on Ways and Means, Mr. COOPER could always be counted upon to

provide invaluable guidance, and I shall always appreciate that help.

I was impressed by the unceasing efforts he put forward as a Member of Congress. His constituents were most fortunate in having him as their Representative. I feel he gave his life to them and to his country.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I join our colleagues from Tennessee in paying a word of tribute to one of the great men of this House. JERE COOPER was a skilled and finished legislator and parliamentarian in every sense of the term. He presided over his committee and over this House while in the Committee of the Whole with rare distinction. He presented legislation from the Committee on Ways and Means with great thoroughness and force.

He was a kind and helpful colleague and friend, ever willing to extend a hand to a younger Member of the House. Time and again I have been the recipient of his generous assistance. JERE COOPER was a man of courage and determination. He was not quick to form opinions but he was steadfast in his convictions. He was one of the great legislators of our time.

We will all miss him sorely in the arduous days ahead. I extend my deepest sympathy to his loved ones.

Mr. RHODES of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I join in paying tribute to the Honorable JERE COOPER, whose untimely passing came as a great shock to us all. As the distinguished chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, he served our Nation well. He will long be remembered for his untiring efforts to make our tax laws more equitable for all our citizens. JERE COOPER'S great ability, his sincerity and courage brought admiration and respect from all who served with him in this body. It was a great privilege and honor to have known him as a friend.

Mr. BREEDING. Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest of heartfelt sadness that I join with the distinguished members of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the entire delegation of the great State of Tennessee in expressing my sorrow over the untimely passing of one of America's leading statesmen and my esteemed friend, JERE COOPER.

The Congress and the Nation, in my estimation, have lost one of the ablest leaders to have appeared on our scene for many long years. JERE COOPER was a man possessed of genuineness and of exceptional vision, of kindness and wisdom. His contributions to his country and to his friends will surely serve as a monument to his memory outlasting the most permanent of man-made shrines.

When I arrived in Washington to take my place as a Member of this body, I sought out JERE COOPER for advice and guidance and friendship. He gave to me unstintingly, without hesitation. I shall long remember his generosity, his keenness of mind and farsightedness.

Mr. Speaker, I mourn the passing of JERE COOPER, who, in my opinion, was one of the greatest statesmen of our time.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay my respects to the memory of JERE COOPER. To me he was a Congressman's Congressman, and I do not know how to characterize him better than that. When I first came here, JERE COOPER approached me and offered to assist me. I found that you could always go to him. No matter how busy he was, he had time to counsel with you and to help you. Like my colleague the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. Machrowicz], I, too, had the privilege of going to Dyersburg to attend his funeral. The respect in which he was held and the homage paid him by the people of that community was evident on that occasion. I want to join with my colleagues in offering my sincere sympathy to his sisters and brother.

Representative government has lost a great champion. We have lost an able statesman.

I pray that God send us another humble, competent leader to replace him.

Mr. NATCHER. Mr. Speaker, the House has sustained an irreparable loss in the death of the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Tennessee. For a period of 29 years JERE COOPER served his country in a diligent and conscientious manner. As chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means his responsibilities were manifold, but never during his tenure as a Representative did he neglect the problems of his constituents. And somehow in addition to all his other obligations he found time to manifest a true interest in his neighboring State of Kentucky.

JERE COOPER will long be missed, for such ability as he possessed is not soon replaced. It was, indeed, a privilege to witness his presentation of the bills reported from the Committee on Ways and Means. He was a master of many subjects, and his lucid descriptions of the bills were enlightening to all.

To appreciate fully the character of this man, one must know that he experienced profound sorrow in the death of his wife and only son. Transcending his suffering, however, was JERE COOPER's faith in God and devotion to duty. These intrinsic qualities brought to him not only the respect and admiration of his colleagues but the abiding affection of his constituents.

JERE COOPER's innumerable achievements have won him the gratitude of his district, his State, and the Congress of the United States. As a personal friend I would like to extend my very deepest sympathy to the members of his family.

Mr. SIKES. Mr. Speaker, the South has produced many outstanding statesmen for whom it has held justifiable pride. One of these who held a place of unquestioned leadership was our late, honored, and beloved colleague, JERE COOPER, of Tennessee. His contributions to public life were manifold. Now we are saddened by his absence. Those of us who had

the pleasure of serving with him will long remember the outstanding faith and devotion which JERE COOPER gave to his constituents, his State, and his Nation. I join with my colleagues in expressing my deepest regrets at his passing. No one who knew him can fail to realize the magnitude of our loss.

JERE COOPER was outstanding in all that he did. Particularly, however, will he be remembered for his untiring service and contributions as chairman of the important Ways and Means Committee where he presided with dignity, honor, and integrity.

From the time that I first came to Congress, I held him in highest esteem and benefited from his counsel. I never failed to be impressed by the splendid manner in which he conducted himself in his work as a Member of Congress. By his presence here he added substantially to the standing of the Congress and to the soundness of its deliberations.

Mr. HEMPHILL. Mr. Speaker, as one of the new Members of the 85th Congress, I learned to hold the late Mr. COOPER in the high esteem and regard I witnessed on every hand from the other and older Members of Congress. He was a dedicated legislator, and any man might well model his devotion to his congressional duties to the pattern set by this great gentleman from Tennessee.

Few of us remember any session, or part of a legislative day, in the first year of the 85th Congress, that Mr. COOPER was not present on the floor, listening intently to the procedure. I always felt that he had a magnificent grasp of procedure and frequently went over to him for explanation of some parliamentary maneuver. He always had time for us, and made us feel that he was interested in everything we did or said.

It would indeed be hard to measure his contribution to his country. I shall not attempt to do so. I am aware most vividly of the personal contribution he made in the lives and thinking of new Congressmen.

I will always think of him as a great and kindly man, devoted patriot, and exemplary American.

Mr. HORAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues in paying tribute to our departed Member, JERE COOPER.

There was a dignity to JERE COOPER that immediately brought him to my attention when, several years ago, I first took my seat in Congress.

There was an aura of courtesy about him that colored his speech and his actions and made him all the more effective in his work here.

There was a confirming sense of sincerity in his work that made you listen and think when he was speaking whether you were in agreement or not.

We shall miss him sorely, for he added to this body those things we need to make this House of Representatives what it should be to this Nation and the world.

Mr. IKARD. Mr. Speaker, it is with a feeling of deepest sorrow that I rise at the first of this new session to join with my colleagues in paying tribute to the memory of my good friend and chairman, JERE COOPER.

Others have spoken at length on his qualities as a statesman and as an individual. I concur fully with what has been said and can only add that, no matter how hard we may try to give expression to our deep feeling of loss over his death, we all find that words are inadequate.

JERE COOPER brought to bear on his heavy duties and responsibilities dedicated principles and moral values which will always stand as an example to his colleagues. His sense of fairness, his unquestioned integrity and his quiet dignity were attributes of character which set JERE COOPER apart from the rank and file and which distinguished him as one whose actions were worthy of emulation by his friends and colleagues.

He presided over the Committee on Ways and Means and over the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the

Union with precision and high professional ability. He was a Christian gentleman who was kind, considerate and thoughtful with respect to feelings of others. He gave helpful advice and counsel to a host of new Members of this great legislative body. I treasured his friendship highly and in his passing I have lost a close friend. The Nation, at a time when it can ill afford it, has lost a great legislator and statesman.

To the members of his family, I extend deepest sympathy.

Mr. GREGORY. Mr. Speaker, in the untimely passing of JERE COOPER the Nation, the great Volunteer State of Tennessee, and the Congress of the United States lost a valuable public servant, and the people of all walks of life lost a great champion.

I have the honor to represent the Kentucky district immediately adjacent to the Eighth District of Tennessee which he has so ably represented for many years and, therefore, on the borderlines of Kentucky and Tennessee we have enjoyed many mutual friends—for the division line is a phantom line so far as friendships are concerned. We have had common problems in representing our constituency, and it has been a source of genuine satisfaction to work with him throughout these years.

Mr. Speaker, in my service in Congress and as a member of the great committee over which he so ably presided as chairman, I have never known a man more dedicated to duty than JERE COOPER. To JERE COOPER his responsibility to his country, to his State and his district always came first. He gave his service to his country in uniform and later in public life, and I think it might appropriately be said that he gave his life for his country and died in line of duty.

Shortly before his passing I had the great privilege of being with him in Tennessee at a meeting called to further the interests of west Tennessee and west Kentucky, at which time he was, as usual, endeavoring to be of service to his constituency. JERE COOPER has left a challenge to others to carry on

for the benefit of humanity and has left virtues long to exist, carved on the tablets of love and memory.

In his passing the Nation has lost a great statesman, his family a devoted brother, and I a good friend. I know now that with his great faith, his Christian spirit, so evident in life, he is enjoying the reward for a life well spent on this earth.

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, the State of Tennessee and all America lost a valuable public servant when JERE COOPER passed away on December 18, 1957. I feel my personal loss deeply. He was too valuable a friend and legislator to lose.

JERE COOPER not only knew his government, but he had a great faith in our way of life. His life was dedicated to its preservation and its betterment.

His death has taken from the House of Representatives a tireless and extremely capable expert in the field of taxation. His expert judgment, ceaseless efforts, and devotion to his duties as chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means stand as a memorial to him.

There is one thing we can never forget about JERE COOPER, and that was his constant demonstration of the results of hard work and complete devotion to duty. From the time he was 12 years of age he made his own way in the world. He never complained but looked toward a goal and attained it.

JERE COOPER'S services to his nation included distinguished efforts on the field of battle in World War I and devoted service to the American Legion on local, State, and national levels.

When our late colleague presided over highly controversial sessions of the House, he commanded respect and praise from both sides of the aisle. He was a loyal Democrat but first of all he was a loyal American. It was a privilege to know him. Time will continue to reveal JERE COOPER'S contributions to this Nation in many areas, but particularly in the fields of economic and political growth.

Mr. WHITTEN. Mr. Speaker, I join with the many friends of JERE COOPER in expressing my sorrow at his untimely passing.

I subscribe to every tribute which has been paid him here today. JERE COOPER represented the finest as a man and as a statesman. He was able, industrious, sincere, and courageous.

His death is a great loss to the Nation, and his record here will always be a challenge to all.

I join in expressing my sincere sympathy to his relatives and friends.

Mrs. KEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of deep personal loss that I pay my humble tribute to the memory of our late colleague, the Honorable JERE COOPER, of Tennessee.

We have lost a great statesman, a wonderful friend, and a distinguished colleague. It seems strange indeed to attend sessions of the House and find that JERE COOPER is no longer here. He was a great inspiration to those of us who were privileged to serve with him in the House, and his wise counsel and good advice will be sorely missed. Congressman COOPER will be long remembered for his many wonderful qualities.

My sympathy goes out especially to his family and congressional staff in their great loss.

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, for his staff and his family and the Tennessee delegation, I wish to express our very deep and sincere appreciation for the moments in which so many beautiful tributes have been expressed.

Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

House Resolution 421

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JERE COOPER, a Representative from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, as a further mark of respect to the deceased Member who has been eulogized today, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 25 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 8, 1958, at 12 o'clock noon.

TUESDAY, *January 14, 1958.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Carrell, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had adopted the following resolution:

Senate Resolution 217

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JERE COOPER, late a Representative from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

MONDAY, *January 13, 1958.*

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following resolution (H. Res. 421) from the House of Representatives, which was read:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JERE COOPER, a Representative from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. KEFAUVER. Mr. President, on behalf of my colleague [Mr. Gore] and myself, I send to the desk a resolution which I ask to have read, and for which I ask present consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 217) was read, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. JERE COOPER, late a Representative from the State of Tennessee.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

Mr. KEFAUVER. Mr. President, during the period of adjournment of the Congress, Tennessee and the Nation lost a dedicated public servant in the death of Representative JERE COOPER, of Dyersburg.

For 29 years Representative COOPER served in the House and through seniority and ability he rose to become chairman

of the Ways and Means Committee which, as we all know, is the tax-raising committee in Congress. This is an exacting and difficult position. JERE COOPER served it well. It is a position in which one is constantly badgered by the pressures of special interests but he kept the national interest uppermost.

In that position he applied his own personal trait of thrift for even back in his boyhood days he had the reputation of saving odd bits, such as string, nails, and paper. He did what he could to conserve the funds of the United States. Representative COOPER was known as a man of political courage. He was a strong and consistent supporter of the reciprocal trade policy fathered by another Tennessean, the late Cordell Hull. One of his last official acts was to write a strong letter of protest criticizing a proposal to ask Congress to boost tariffs on lead and zinc. This took political courage, for there are strong interests on the other side in his home State.

Representative COOPER gained a reputation in Dyersburg as a working youngster, and he kept up that pace throughout his entire career. A veteran of World War I, he was first elected to the House in 1927 and was in his 15th consecutive term at the time of his death. He will be greatly missed on both sides of the aisle and in both Houses.

Mr. GORE. Mr. President, the late Honorable JERE COOPER was a man apart. Introspective and studious, he was sometimes regarded as alone or aloof. This, in my opinion, was never his intent or desire. Through a long association I found him warmhearted, compassionate, and understanding. He was not only understanding of the foibles and problems of his close friends, but he had a true understanding of the sentiments and aspirations of those in the average walks of life. Through a long congressional career his service was dedicated to the public welfare, as he understood it.

His understanding of public welfare was a broad one—so broad that it reached far beyond the boundaries of the con-

gressional district he was honored to represent, and in which representation he honored that district. Broader than his State, his was truly a national outlook.

Even more than that, as my senior colleague has said, he took broad positions of enlightened self-interest for America. On questions of foreign policy he was a leader for an enlightened economic foreign policy. He was a man truly worthy of the title "United States Congressman." His every sentiment was identified with the national welfare. His every aspiration was to serve ably, correctly, and nobly.

Mr. President, at the time I was elected to Congress, JERE COOPER had been a Member of the House for 10 years. I went to him for advice, for guidance, and for help. He gave all of them to me, literally taking personal responsibility in guiding my early years in Congress in responsible paths. I was grateful to him, and we enjoyed a warm friendship. I admired him. I loved him as a colleague and as a friend.

Congress has lost a great Member, the country has lost a Representative of truly national proportions. I join my distinguished colleague in the authorship of the resolution and in extending to the members of his family and to his many—yes, his legion of—friends the deepest sympathy and condolences upon the passing of this great American.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, the State of Tennessee and our Nation lost another devoted public servant when the Honorable JERE COOPER, a Member of the House of Representatives in every Congress since the Seventy-first, was called from among us by a Higher Being.

JERE COOPER served in Congress during a long period of far-reaching changes in our country and in the world. He participated actively in the making of many of these changes. He was a forward-looking man, a man of vision, a patriotic man who worked hard for the people of his district and for Americans generally.

As chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee during the latter years of his service in Congress, Representative COOPER occupied a position of great power. He used that position to advance the general good.

It was my personal privilege to serve with JERE COOPER during my years in the House. I know at firsthand of his devotion to the public welfare, and I miss him as a colleague and as a friend.

Mr. CARLSON. Mr. President, it was in 1935, when I began my service in the House of Representatives, that I first met and learned to know JERE COOPER. As Members of that body, we became friends, and at the beginning of my third term in the House, I was elected as a member of the House Ways and Means Committee. At that time it was under the very able leadership of an outstanding American, a great patriot, the Honorable Robert Doughton, of North Carolina. Next to him on the committee was JERE COOPER, of Tennessee.

It was my privilege to serve on that committee for 8 years, and therefore I had an opportunity not only to be associated with JERE COOPER, but I learned to know him as a man of integrity, sincerity, and great ability.

Others have spoken of his great statesmanship, with which I am in thorough accord, and others have dwelled at length on his great integrity. I want to speak of him as a personal friend.

As you knew JERE COOPER, you could not help but learn to admire him for his sincerity and his integrity. It can be truly said that his word was his bond. When he made a commitment, you never had any fears that the decision might be something else, no matter when final action took place. I think it can be honestly stated that he never gave his word lightly; but, once given, that was it.

He possessed a keen and analytical mind which was capable of analyzing the most complex problems, and those of us who

have had the privilege of serving on the House Ways and Means Committee and the Finance Committee can readily appreciate how complex and how difficult are some of the tax problems that confront the members of those committees.

JERE did not arrive at hasty decisions or make snap judgments. He explored every phase of the pending problem and I am personally going to miss his leadership in the field of taxation. Not only that, this Congress and the country are going to miss it, because he was an outstanding authority.

Another trait of JERE COOPER's that I want to mention was his fairness. He had some very definite views and never hesitated to express them, but during my many years of acquaintance with him, he never made a disparaging remark about those who had different views and different ideas on the same matter.

I know of no field in the legislative processes in which integrity, sincerity, and fairness are more vital than in the fields of taxes, tariff, and social security—measures which affect the lives of each American citizen.

I say again, JERE COOPER will be sorely missed.

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. President, JERE COOPER was my friend. For 10 years I served on the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, where Representative COOPER served so long and with such great distinction.

It has been said, so many times that it has become almost trite, that JERE COOPER knew tax legislation, and knew it very thoroughly. This is indeed true.

Congress and our country will miss the devoted service which he gave to the Government. He was thorough in his work. He was dedicated. As has been stated, in dealing with his colleagues he was always fair. He had his own viewpoints about taxation, but he was consistent. He held in high respect the opinions on tax legislation of those with whom he worked, including those with whom he disagreed.

He possessed a fine and noble character, and he was a great patriot.

Mr. SPARKMAN. Mr. President, I should like to say a word about JERE COOPER. When I first came to the House of Representatives in January 1937, I came to know JERE COOPER. He was the zone chairman on the Ways and Means Committee for the State of Alabama, as well as the State of Tennessee, and perhaps other territory. It was to him that I made application for committee assignments at that time. I came to know him, to know him well, to like him, to admire him greatly. He was a clear thinker, a forceful advocate of things in which he believed, and an effective legislator.

As chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, a position to which he came when former Representative Bob Doughton retired from the House of Representatives, he became, naturally, one of the most powerful Members of the Congress of the United States, and by virtue of that office, one of the most powerful men in the Nation, certainly as one affecting our tax laws and the economic conditions. JERE COOPER worked hard at the job.

I was shocked when I learned that he had had an attack. I inquired about him from time to time. I was pleased when I learned he was making progress. But how greatly shocked I was the next day to get the sad news that he had passed away.

JERE COOPER was a good man and a good citizen. After all, Mr. President, I do not know of any better tribute that can be paid to a man after he has gone than to have those who knew him say he was a good citizen.

JERE COOPER was a fine, able, effective legislator; and I join with my colleagues in the many tributes which have been paid to him.

Mr. CHAVEZ. Mr. President, I should like to say a word in tribute to JERE COOPER.

I was elected to the 72d Congress in the year 1930. The Democrats then had a majority of one. Incidentally, there

was held a special election up in northern Michigan, and a Democrat was elected. He constituted the majority.

It was that Congress which elected John Garner as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

In order to have committee assignments, it was necessary to have a caucus. The caucus was presided over by the late John McDuffie, from Alabama, who was later a judge of the United States court. He had a terrible time with that bunch of Democrats feeling their power, being in the majority.

I recall vividly that when it came to the question of assigning Members to the different committees I voted for JERE COOPER to become a member of the Committee on Ways and Means. I have not had to apologize since. He did his job well. He carried on as only a sincere, devoted, dedicated Representative should. I am glad to pay this tribute to my late friend, to my good friend, JERE COOPER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 217) was unanimously agreed to.

Under the second resolving clause the Presiding Officer appointed Mr. Douglas and Mr. Dirksen as the committee on the part of the Senate to attend the funeral of the deceased Representative.

Mr. DIRKSEN. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative of Tennessee, I move that the Senate stand adjourned until 12 o'clock noon on Thursday next.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 3 o'clock and 39 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned, the adjournment being under the order previously entered, until Thursday, January 16, 1958, at 12 o'clock meridian.

MONDAY, *January 27, 1958.*

Mr. MARTIN of Pennsylvania. Mr. President, I wish to join with my colleagues in expressing deep regret and sorrow over the great loss which our Nation has suffered in the death of the late Honorable JERE COOPER.

I have read the tributes which have been paid in both Houses of Congress to his greatness as a statesman and patriot. I know there is little I can add, except to say that I regarded JERE COOPER as one of the ablest members of Congress and one of the outstanding Americans of our time.

Few men have had such a thorough understanding of the complex problems involved in the tax legislation and the other important issues that came before him as chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. As a member of the Senate Committee on Finance, I had the high privilege of close association with him, and I learned to place a high value on his clear thinking, his sound judgment, and his inspiring example of complete dedication to the national welfare.

I honor JERE COOPER as a valiant soldier who fought in war and peace for a better, stronger America. He will be sadly missed in the years ahead. My deepest sympathy goes out to his family in their tragic loss.

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